1 KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California MAR 2.2 2013 2 KAREN B. CHAPPELLE Supervising Deputy Attorney General Board of Vecational Nursina 3 WÎLLIAM D. GARDNER and Psychiatric Technicians Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 244817 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2114 5 6 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant 7 8 BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. PT-2010-4404 12 KATHY DUARTE 29002 Jasmine Creek Lane 13 Highland, CA 92346 ACCUSATION 14 Psychiatric Technician License No. PT 31006 15 Respondent. 16 17 18 Complainant alleges: 19 **PARTIES** 20 1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in 21 her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric 22 Technicians, Department of Consumer Affairs. 23 2. On or about August 7, 2001, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric 24 Technicians issued Psychiatric Technician License Number PT 31006 to Kathy Duarte 25 (Respondent). The Psychiatric Technician License was in full force and effect at all times 26 relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2013, unless renewed. 27 /// 28 /// 1

## **JURISDICTION**

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws.

  All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender and/or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
  - 5. Section 4521 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"The board may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter [the Psychiatric Technicians Law (Bus. & Prof Code, 4500, et seq.)] for any of the following reasons:

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"(n) The commission of any act involving dishonesty, when that action is substantially related to the duties and functions of the licensee."

## **COST RECOVERY**

6. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Dishonest Acts)

- 7. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 4521, subdivision (n), in that Respondent engaged in dishonest acts substantially related to the duties and functions of a psychiatric technician. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. From January 2008 through March 2011, while employed as a psychiatric technician at Patton State Hospital (PSH) in Patton, California, Respondent conspired with PSH personnel services specialist Jose Romero to steal more than \$280,000.00 from the State of California by